**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A vacuum cleaner, comprising:

a housing;

a nozzle inlet;

a suction generator carried on said housing;

a dirt cup including a dirt collection chamber, a chamber inlet, a filter cavity and a chamber outlet providing fluid communication between said dirt collection chamber and said filter cavity; and

a filter element received in said filter cavity and attached to the dirt cup via a twist fit.

2. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 1, wherein said filter element includes an an interior chamber, an inlet in communication with said interior chamber and a filter media through which air passes as said air exits from said interior chamber.

3. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 1, wherein said filter element includes a first end, a second end and a sidewall defining an interior chamber.

4. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 3, wherein said first end includes a filter inlet.

5. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 4, wherein said sidewall is made at least partially from a filter media.

6. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 5, wherein said second end wall holds a dirt trap.

7. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 6, wherein said filter element is cylindrical in shape.

8. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 1, wherein said dirt cup includes a top wall, a sidewall and a bottom wall.

9. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 8, wherein said top wall is formed by a removable lid.

10. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 8, wherein said inlet is provided in said sidewall.

11. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 10, wherein said dirt collection chamber is cylindrical in shape and said inlet is substantially tangentially directed relative to said dirt collection chamber.

12. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 8, wherein said filter cavity is formed in said bottom wall.

13. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 12, wherein said chamber outlet is provided in said bottom wall.

14. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 13, further including a screen over said chamber outlet.

15. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 14, wherein said filter cavity is frustoconical in shape.

16. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 15, wherein said filter cavity flares from said inlet end toward said outlet end.

17. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 16, wherein at least a portion of said dirt collection chamber is annular in shape.

18. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 17, wherein a conduit is provided between said chamber outlet and said dirt collection chamber.

19. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 18, wherein said housing includes a nozzle section including said nozzle inlet and a canister section.

20. (Original) The vacuum cleaner of claim 19, wherein said nozzle section and canister section are pivotally connected together.

21.-22. (Cancelled)

23. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 1, wherein the filter element includes a structure that engages a coopering structure on a bottom wall of the dirt cup.

24. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 1, wherein the filter element is threaded to engage a threaded section of the filter cavity.

25. (New) A vacuum cleaner, comprising:

a housing;

a nozzle inlet;

a suction generator carried on said housing;

a dirt cup including a dirt collection chamber, a chamber inlet, a filter cavity and a chamber outlet providing fluid communication between said dirt collection chamber and said filter cavity; and

a filter element received in said filter cavity, wherein the filter element holds a dirt trap.

26. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 25, wherein the filter element is threaded to engage a threaded section of the filter cavity.

27. (New) The vacuum cleaner of claim 25, wherein the dirt trap is held in an aperture of the filter element.